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PATENT

Application # 09/642,980

Attorney Docket # 1999-0587 (1014-091)

AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 41 (Canceled)

42-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

at a gatekeeper of a first domain, the gatekeeper associated with a location database, the location database comprising home user location information and visiting user location information:

receiving, from a calling H.323 entity registered with the gatekeeper and located in the first domain, a message comprising an alias address of a called H.323 entity, the message originating a call to the called H.323 entity, the called H.323 entity registered as a home entity in a second domain, the called H.323 entity registered as a visitor in a third domain;

receiving a called routable alias address for the called H.323 entity, the called routable alias address associated with the alias address of the called H.323 entity, the called routable alias address received from a non-gatekeeper database external to the first domain, the second domain, and the third domain; and

sending the called routable alias address to the calling H.323 entity.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:

registering the calling H.323 entity with the gatekeeper.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:

providing location information related to the calling H.323 entity to the non-gatekeeper database.

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48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
notifying the calling H.323 entity of an approximation of a cost of making the call.
49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining that the calling H.323 entity is visiting the first domain.
50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
accessing a multimedia call forwarding service for the call based upon information about the calling H.323 entity obtained from the non-gatekeeper database.
51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
accessing a multimedia call transfer service for the call based upon information about the calling H.323 entity obtained from the non-gatekeeper database.
52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining that the calling H.323 entity is visiting the first domain and associated with a first H.323 service provider; and
placing the call via a second H.323 service provider.
53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining a service quality for the call based upon information about the calling H.323 entity obtained from the non-gatekeeper database.
54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining a network reliability for the call based upon information about the calling H.323 entity obtained from the non-gatekeeper database.

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55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
storing the called routable alias address in a gatekeeper cache memory.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein an alias address assigned to an H.323 user is kept fixed as the user moves from one physical place to another.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein an alias address assigned to an H.323 user is kept fixed as the user moves from one logical place to another.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein an alias address assigned to an H.323 user is kept fixed as the user moves from one domain to another.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein a first content portion of the call is routed via a different communication path from a second content portion of the call.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein audio content of the call is routed via a different communication path from non-audio content of the call.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein video content of the call is routed via a different communication path from non-video content of the call.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the call is routed via multiple carriers.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the called H.323 entity is associated with a common terminal in the second domain and in the third domain.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the call is a point-to-multipoint call placed to a plurality of called H.323 entities.

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65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the call is a multipoint-to-multipoint call placed between a plurality of calling H.323 entities to a plurality of called H.323 entities.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the alias address is an E.164 number.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the alias address is a transport address.

68. (Currently Amended) A machine-computer readable medium comprising instructions executable by a processor to perform a method comprising:

at a gatekeeper of a first domain, the gatekeeper associated with a location database, the location database comprising home user location information and visiting user location information:

receiving, from a calling H.323 entity registered with the gatekeeper and located in the first domain, a message comprising an alias address of a called H.323 entity, the message originating a call to the called H.323 entity, the called H.323 entity registered as a home entity in a second domain, the called H.323 entity registered as a visitor in a third domain;

receiving a called routable alias address for the called H.323 entity, the called routable alias address associated with the alias address of the called H.323 entity, the called routable alias address received from a non-gatekeeper database external to the first domain, the second domain, and the third domain; and

sending the called routable alias address to the calling H.323 entity.